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**U.S. ARRESTS MARYLAND MAN FOR PROVIDING MATERIAL
SUPPORT TO FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, MARK J. MARSHON, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and RAYMOND W. KELLY, the Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, announced today the arrest of MAHMUD FARUQ BRENT, also known as "Mahmud Al Mutazzim," on a criminal complaint charging him with conspiracy to provide material support or resources to the Lashkar-e-Taiba foreign terrorist organization.

The complaint alleges that BRENT, of Gwynn Oak, Maryland, conspired to provide material support or resources to Lashkar-e-Taiba ("Lashkar") from in or about 2001 up through May 2005, by, among other things, attending a terrorist training camp run by

Lashkar in Pakistan. Lashkar was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in December 2001. The complaint also alleges that BRENT received martial arts training from Tarik Shah, who is presently under indictment in the Southern District of New York on similar charges.

Shah was allegedly found to be in possession of an address book containing telephone numbers for "Mahmud Almutazzim" and "Sayfullah." Telephone records reveal that one of the numbers listed for "Almutazzim" was subscribed to by BRENT's wife at his home in Gwynn Oak, Maryland, and that the number listed for "Sayfullah" was subscribed to at an address known to have been used by Seifullah Chapman. Chapman has been convicted in the Eastern District of Virginia of multiple terrorism and firearms charges as part of the Virginia Jihad Network prosecutions.

In a recorded conversation with an undercover FBI agent, Shah allegedly mentioned the names of several students with whom he had studied martial arts and who had gone overseas to training camps in Afghanistan and Yemen, including "Mahmud Al Mutazzim." It is alleged, among other things, Shah reported that Al Mutazzim had told him how "difficult" it was to be back in the United States and not to be in training. Shah allegedly said that Al Mutazzim could be trusted because he was a longtime student of his who, after leaving school, started "seeking the way to become Mujahideen." Shah also allegedly told the undercover agent that he intended to call Al Mutazzim to enlist his help to prepare a

demonstration video to be used for martial arts training of jihadists. Phone records reveal a subsequent 16-minute telephone call between phones used by Shah and Al Mutazzim.

After Shah was arrested on May 28, 2005, he provided additional details regarding his relationship with Al Mutazzim. Specifically, Shah admitted that he had trained Al Mutazzim in martial arts when they both lived in Beacon, New York, in 2001, and that they often watched martial arts training videos and other videos about jihad in Bosnia. During this period, Al Mutazzim allegedly introduced Shah to Seifullah Chapman in the Washington, D.C. area. It is alleged that later, when Al Mutazzim returned to the United States in or about 2002, Al Mutazzim mentioned to Shah that he had gone to a "camp."

On the same day as Shah's arrest, Shah agreed to meet with BRENT and to allow the FBI to record the encounter. Shah and BRENT met at a hotel in the vicinity of Columbia, Maryland. Allegedly, during that meeting, when Shah indicated that he wanted to "travel," BRENT replied that his "connections" were "kinda gone," in light of what had been happening in the community and that his only "connect" was "doing time now." According to the complaint, BRENT explained that he never really "knew names" since that was the "way that they had it set up" over there and that, at the time he went to the camps, everything was "really organized." BRENT allegedly described the difficulties he encountered in reaching the "camps" and the

process by which he was able to find a connection to get into the camps, although he told Shah that he would not "mention" his connection's name to Shah. It is alleged that BRENT encouraged Shah to travel overseas to the camps and told Shah that it was a question of "how much" Shah was willing to "sacrifice" and whether Shah was willing to "take a risk." BRENT allegedly explained how difficult it was to make the trip since it was difficult to "trust" people in the current climate and noted that "we don't know who is who," and that "we were not in a position to make new friends." BRENT also allegedly indicated that he had traveled to Pakistan. The complaint charges that, when Shah inquired whether BRENT had stayed in the city, BRENT responded that he had not been in the cities but had been up in the "mountains" training "and stuff" with "the mujahideen, the fighters." BRENT allegedly stated that because of "treaties with Bush," it became dangerous for "foreigners," like BRENT, to stay in the camps, and so they moved him around from place to place. BRENT also allegedly stated that he had agreed to provide whatever "assistance" he could over there and expressed his hope that Allah would bless him for his efforts. BRENT allegedly stated that he would never "go back" on his decision to go to the camps and that it was "one of the better decisions in my life."

BRENT is scheduled to appear this afternoon before United States Magistrate Judge FRANK MAAS in Manhattan federal court.

A search warrant was executed at BRENT's home in Maryland at approximately the same time as BRENT's arrest by members of the Baltimore Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Mr. KELLEY praised the efforts of the New York Joint Terrorism Task Force, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the New York City Police Department, for their efforts in this continuing investigation. Mr. KELLEY also thanked the members of the New Jersey and Maryland Joint Terrorism Task Forces who assisted with the arrest and search.

Assistant United States Attorneys VICTOR L. HOU and KARL METZNER are in charge of this prosecution.

The charges in the complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.